Board for sharing of Rihand power which provides that in the event of Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board's inability to supply due share of Rihand power to Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board. Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board will compensate for such power drawals on agreed terms. The matter is to be resolved bilaterally between the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

Production of Oil and Gas at Narimanam Site

[English]

4565. SHRI K. THULASIAH VANDAYAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of oil and gas being produced from Narimanam site daily:

(b) the quantity of crude oil and gas produced from this site till date:

(c) whether the Government propose to undertake more drilling of wells in this area: and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Around 726 tonnes of crude oil and 0.093 million cubic meters of gas.

(b) Till 15th August, 1991 0.619 million tonnes of crude oil and 137.221 million cubic meters of gas had been produced.

(c) and (d) 16 development wells have been drilled, one well is under drilling.

[Translation]

Supply of Coal to Hard Coke Industries

4566. SHRI BHUVNESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the reply given on August 6, 1991 to Unstarred Question No. 1729 regarding supply of Hard Coke in Bihar and state :

(a) whether several thousand tonnes of Grade-II coal is being supplied to the Hard Coke Industries of district Hazaribagh from Jharkhand colliery of CCL after every three months:

(b) whether the same stock of coke was declared earlier as grade-III as a result of which the coal industry suffered a huge loss:

(c) if so, the facts thereof:

(d) whether the Government propose to enquire the circumstances under which the gradation of the coal was changed: and

(e) if so, when ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Washery Grade-II coal is being supplied to the Hard Coke industries of Hazaribagh District from Jharkhand colliery on quarterly basis. During the quarter April to June '91 17,400 tonnes of coal was supplied.

(b) to (e) In Jharkhand colliery mining is done in Block 13/1 opencast. During the year 1985-86 to 1987-88 mining was done only in V Seam and the declared grade of seam was W-II. But during the year 1988-89 to 1989-90 the production came from III/IV/V seam combined and the combined grade declared was W.III.

Qualitywise, III/IV seams are inferior. Again during the year 1990-91. production/stacking from V seam and III/IV seams started separately. The grade declared for the year 1990-91 in respect of the seams was as under :—

III/IV Seam — ROM Grade — W.III

V Seam — ROM Grade — W.II

At present (1991-92) gradation of the coal seam for this colliery is as under :

III/IV/VA Seams — ROM Grade— W.III

V Seam — ROM Grade—W.III

Gradation of coal seam/seams is done by Coal Controller. It was due to initiative taken by the coal company to stack the production from V seam separately that the company was able to get a better price for this coal. In view of the above no enquiry appears necessary in this case.

Filling up of vacant posts in Railway

4567. SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI :
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of employees working in the Railways:

(b) the total number of persons retired and recruited during the last three years, year-wise:

(c) the number of existing vacancies in the various posts: and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to fill up these vacancies and the future plan in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) 16,46,704 as on 31-03-1990.

(b) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

LPG Agencies in Jalpaiguri

4568. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria regarding the maximum number of consumers attached with a LPG dealer:

(b) whether the criteria are followed in respect of all dealers in North Bengal, especially in Jalpaiguri; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to allot more dealerships in that city?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) the maximum number of consumers attached with an LPG distributor depends upon the sale of refill cylinders per month for which ceiling limits, based on population of Towns except in Metropolitan Cities, have been fixed. This is however subject to overall product availability.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) New LPG distributorship are based on factors including population of towns, economic viability, marketing plans and policy from time to time.